**Unauthorised Construction of Shops at National Highway No. 35 in West Bengal**

1942. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have laid down any guidelines for constructions along the national highways in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware of the growing construction of unauthorised shops by unscrupulous elements at National Highway No. 35 at Bongaon city, District 24 Parganas, West Bengal encroaching and forcibly occupying the land belonging to the residents of close vicinity;

(c) whether any action has been taken by the concerned authorities on the such forcible encroachment and unauthorised construction received from the affected people; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to demolish such unauthorised shops immediately and restore the encroached land to their owners ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The State Governments have been directed to take appropriate action for removal of encroachments wherever taking place along National Highways including National Highway No. 35 at Bongaon city, which is an unsuitable urban link.

**Private Sectors in Roard Construction**

1943. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are inviting private sector to undertake road construction in India including maintenance and running of express ways, toll roads, toll bridges and other related activities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and steps taken so far;

(c) whether Government are also considering the foreign construction companies and NRI's in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has been contemplating to involve Private Sector including NRI's in construction, maintenance and operation of fee-based facilities on National Highways. Pending finalisation of the decision in this context, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has recently been signed amongst the Government of India, State Government of Maharashtra and Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services Limited (IL&FS) for taking up Panvel Bypass on N.H. No. 4 in Maharashtra on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis.

**सड़कों की खराब हालत के कारण ईंधन की बर्बादी**

1944. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह** : क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ऊर्जा सलाहकार बोर्ड द्वारा किये गये अध्ययन से यह पता चला है कि सड़कों की खराब हालत के कारण प्रतिवर्ष छः हजार करोड़ रुपये के ईंधन का नुकसान होता है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ग) ईंधन को बचाने के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या प्रयास किये गये हैं ?

**जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर)** : (क) से (ग) ऊर्जा से संबंधित सलाहकार बोर्ड की 1983 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, सड़क सुधार कार्यक्रमों पर 5,300 करोड़ रु० के निवेश से प्रतिवर्ष 500 करोड़ रु० तक के ईंधन की बचत हो सकती है । केन्द्र सरकार का सम्बन्ध मुख्यतः राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के विकास/रख-रखाव से है और सड़कों की मौजूदा हालत, यातायात सघनता तथा निधियों की उपलब्धता को ध्यान में रखते हुए सुधार कार्यक्रम तथा ऐसे कार्यक्रम जिनसे ईंधन की बचत हो निरन्तर किये जाते हैं।